Rs. 381.19 lakhs respectively. This cost was based on the Feasibility Reports for pollution abatement works in these two towns, which were submitted by the State Government after carrying out necessary surveys and investigations. In Badrinath, only one project of low cost sanitation has been sanctioned so far for Rs. 19.99 lakhs. Work on this project is held up due to non-availabity of land (which is to be provided by the local body) for the low cost community complexes. In Devprayag, work on the sanctioned projects of river front development and low cost sanitation totaling to Rs. 57.75 lakhs is under progress. The Detailed Project Reports for the projects of interception, diversion and treatment of sewage to be prepared as per guidelines of Government for both the towns have still not been submitted by the State Government.

Under the first phase of Ganga Action Plan, pollution abatement works were implemented in 25 towns along the river, including Hardwar-Rishikesh in Uttaranchal, at a cost of 451.70 crore. Under the Ganga Action Plan Phase-ll, pollution abatement works are being implemented in 95 towns along river Ganga and its tributaries Yamuna, Gomti and Damodar at a total approved cost of Rs. 1448.42 crore. In Uttaranchal, Ganga Action Plan Phase-ll works are being implemented in 10 towns, including Badrinath and Devprayag, at an approved cost of Rs. 38.49 crore. Projects amounting to Rs. 15.57 crore have been sanctioned till date for the 10 towns in Uttaranchal, including Badrinath and Devpyayag, and funds amounting to Rs. 6.76 crore released to the State Government against which an expenditure of Rs. 5.53 crore has been incurred till end of June, 2002. The Ganga Action Plan Phase-ll works are targeted for completion by December, 2005.

Air quality standards in Orissa

2558. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to prepare action plans for pollution control in cities and towns that did not meet ambient air quality, as directed by the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the names of such cities and towns in Orissa, that did not meet air quality standards; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for time-

bound implementation of these action plans?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRWT.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b)Talcher-Angul and Rourkela have been identified as cities/towns in Orissa, that do not meet the ambient air quality standards.

(c) Government of Orissa has been asked to prepare city specific action plans in a time bound manner.

Housing sites along Chandaka Wildlife Sanctuary

2559. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is threat perception to the Chandaka Wildlife Sanctuary, due to development of housing sites along its boundary;

(b) if so, the nature of these threats; and

(c) what action Government propose to counter-balance such threats?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRITR. BAALU): (a) and (b) Development of housing colonies outside Chandaka Wildlife Sanctuary poses a threat to the fauna and flora of sanctuary because of the people frequently entering into the sanctuary and impacting the wildlife and its habitat.

(c) Action taken by the Government to counter-balance such threats include:

(i) Elephant proof trenches have been constructed around the sanctuary.

(ii) Regular patrolling is done by the wildlife staff.

Wildlife sanctuaries as tourist spots

†2560.SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any plan for development of wildlife sanctuaries as tourist spots;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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